

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Decontamination of biological spores occurs by applying a germination solution for spores containing calcium ions, preferably calcium chloride, and dipicolinic acid in combination with a decontaminant. The germination composition may include water and a surfactant. The germination solution allows for lower concentrations of select decontaminants to be effectively used against spore contamination. The germination composition may be applied prior to, concurrently, or sequentially with repeated applications of the decontaminant.